

Young Arts Report for Annual

General Meeting 2018 ADFAS Pokolbin

ADFAS Pokolbin has continued to support students in our local area throughout 2018.

This support has been adapted to suit the specific needs of the schools involved.

Cessnock West Public School received full funding for a performance of “The Magic Flute” as part of Opera Australia’s Schools Tour. This whole school performance was enjoyed by children from Kindergarten to Year 6. The program includes both preparation and follow up activities for classroom teachers and is especially adapted for primary school aged children. Two of our committee members were invited to attend and were greatly impressed with the students’ involvement and enjoyment of the operatic performance. The performers, musical accompaniment, costuming and staging were all of high quality.

Cessnock East Public School submitted an application requesting funding for a three day school incursion. Local artist, Kes Harper worked with students from Years 3 and 4 to support their Stage 2 Visual Arts Syllabus Outcomes for the year.

Kes developed the “Our Day as an Artist” course plan which had each class focus on a famous Australian Artist, study their artistic style and work in his or her selected medium to create their own artworks. A committee member attended one of the classes and was very impressed with the students’ engagement in the workshop activities and some of the children’s artworks were shared with the committee and we were delighted with the results.

A donation was also made to Cessnock East for two book prizes to be awarded at the Annual School Presentation. Two awards for “Inspired Learners” will be presented on 29th November this year by one of our committee members.

In 2019, it is planned that **Cessnock East Public School** will be again be offered funding for their Stage 3 Excursion to Sydney which includes a performance at Sydney Opera House.

This means that all Stage 3 students will have the opportunity to attend this wonderful excursion in their time at the school.

Next year **Cessnock West Public School** will be eligible to apply for an Arts based workshop which supports the learning outcomes of students at their school. The biennial funding of the Opera performance at Cessnock West will allow the children to attend three to four performances in their time at the school.

This year the **ADFAS Pokolbin \$1000 Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship** was awarded for the second time. Senior Arts students from **Cessnock High School** and **Mt View High School** who were preparing to sit the Higher School Certificate in 2019 were eligible for entry.

After much deliberation, the Scholarship sub-committee, selected the application made by Ryan Dixon of Mt View High as the Scholarship winner for this year.

Ryan’s excellent portfolio of work, his well-written cover letter and his teacher’s recommendation made him a standout.

A young cellist and budding composer, Lillian Taylor, also from Mt View High School received an Encouragement Award of \$250.

The Scholarship Presentation was made by our Chairman, Heather Wilson prior to the commencement of our lecture on 8th October. Both students’ responses were well received and we were pleased to have The

Principal of Mt View, Desley Pfeffer and our Scholarship contact teacher Liz Alder, as well as family members in attendance to support the students.

Stephen Bisset, a journalist from The Cessnock Advertiser interviewed all those involved and an article was published on 9th October highlighting the students' success.

Our relationship with both High Schools was further developed throughout the year and we have maintained contact with our inaugural winners from 2017.

Bowen Cavanagh of Mt View High School, last year's Scholarship winner has agreed to share his HSC work with our committee as has Jett Mozzell, the recipient of the Encouragement Award. We have permission to post some of their work on our ADFAS Pokolbin website. It has been gratifying to see these students mature and further develop their artistic ability.

The funding of these initiatives by ADFAS Pokolbin is only made possible through the support of our members. On behalf of our committee, thank you once again for your constant and generous support. The purchase of raffle tickets and attendance at various well patronised events throughout the year all contribute to our Young Arts Program.

Debra McGuigan
ADFAS Pokolbin
Young Arts Coordinator